

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A communications protocol method for use in a wireless network of devices, comprising:

transmitting, from a first device, data in the protocol having a frame including a first time slot for transmitting data,;

receiving, at one or more other devices, the data transmitted from the first device a second time slot, after the first time slot, for; and either

transmitting a first acknowledgement state in a second time slot after the first time slot;  
[[,]] and a third time slot, after the second time slot, for; or

transmitting a second acknowledgement state in a third time slot after the second time slot,

wherein the first and second acknowledgement states are either a positive acknowledge and a negative acknowledge, respectively, or a negative acknowledge and a positive acknowledge, respectively.

2. (Currently Amended) A communications protocol method according to claim 1,

wherein the first acknowledgement state is a positive acknowledge and the second acknowledgement state is a negative acknowledge.

3. (Currently Amended) A communications protocol method according to claim 2,

wherein the first time slot is variable in length and the second and third time slots are fixed in length.

4. (Currently Amended) A communications protocol method according to claim 2,  
wherein the positive acknowledge ~~includes the~~ comprises a transmission of a specific coded value containing sufficient redundancy to allow it to be recovered in the presence of received errors, and

the negative acknowledge ~~includes the~~ comprises a transmission of a specific coded value containing sufficient redundancy to allow it to be recovered in the presence of received errors.

5. (Currently Amended) A radio communication system, including comprising a transceiver/transmitter and at least two transceiver/receivers,

wherein the transceiver/transmitter transmits data in a first time slot to the transceiver/receivers, ~~and wherein~~

upon receipt of the data, each of the transceiver/receivers ~~return~~ transmit either a first acknowledgement state in a second time slot, after the first time slot, or a second acknowledgement state in a third time slot after the second time slot, and

the first and second acknowledgement states are either a positive acknowledge and a negative acknowledge, respectively, or a negative acknowledge and a positive acknowledge, respectively.

6. (Currently Amended) A radio communication system according to claim [[1]] 5,

wherein the first acknowledgement state is a positive acknowledge and the second acknowledgement state is a negative acknowledge.

7. (Currently Amended) A radio communications system according to claim 6,  
wherein the first time slot is variable in length and the second and third time slots are fixed in length.

8. (Currently Amended) A radio communication system according to claim 7,  
wherein each ~~transceiver~~ of the transceiver/receivers and the transceiver/transmitter monitors the transmission medium during any time slots during which each of the respective transceiver transceiver/receivers and the transceiver/transmitter is not transmitting.

9. (Currently Amended) A radio communication system according to claim 8,  
wherein upon each ~~transceiver/receiver~~ of the transceiver/receivers detecting a correctly coded transmission in the negative acknowledge time slot, each ~~transceiver/receiver~~ of the transceiver/receivers discards the data previously received in the first time slot.

10. (Currently Amended) A radio communication system according to claim 9,  
wherein upon detecting a correctly coded transmission in the negative acknowledge time slot, the transceiver/transmitter retransmits the data to each of the transceiver/receivers.

11. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver for use in a radio communication system including comprising at least one transceiver/transmitter and at least one other transceiver/receiver, ~~in use, the transceiver/receiver~~

wherein, upon receiving a data packet in a first time slot from at least one of the transceiver/transmitter transceiver/transmitters, the transceiver/receiver either transmits a first acknowledgement state in a second time slot, after the first time slot, or transmits a second acknowledgement state in a third time slot, after the second time slot, and

the first and second acknowledgement states are either a positive acknowledge and a negative acknowledge, respectively, or a negative acknowledge and a positive acknowledge, respectively.

12. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 11, wherein the transceiver/receiver further receives the first acknowledgement state in the second time slot from the at least one of the other transceiver/receiver transceiver/receivers in the communication system or receives the second acknowledgement state in the third time slot from the at least one of the other transceiver/receiver transceiver/receivers in the communication system.

13. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 12, wherein the first acknowledgement state is a positive acknowledge, and the second acknowledgement state is a negative acknowledge.

14. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 13,  
wherein the transceiver/receiver monitors ~~the a~~ communications medium during a time  
slot during which the transceiver/receiver is not transmitting.

15. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 11,  
wherein upon receiving a negative acknowledge from ~~the~~ at least one of the other  
~~transceiver/receiver transceiver/receivers~~, the transceiver/receiver discards the data packet  
received in the first time slot.

16. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/receiver according to claim 15,  
wherein the discarded data packet is replaced with data retransmitted by the  
transceiver/transmitter.

17. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/transmitter for use in a communication system  
including comprising at least one ~~other~~ transceiver/receiver,  
wherein ~~in use, the transceiver/receiver transceiver/transmitter~~ transmits a data packet in  
a first time slot to ~~the~~ at least one of the ~~transceiver/receiver transceiver/receivers~~ and receives  
~~either one or both of~~ a first acknowledge acknowledgement state in a second time slot after the  
first time slot from ~~one or more of the transceiver/receivers at least one of the~~  
~~transceiver/receivers or and receives~~ a second acknowledgement state in a third time slot after  
the second time slot from ~~at least one of the transceiver/receivers at least one of the~~  
~~transceiver/receivers, and~~

the first and second acknowledgement states are either a positive acknowledge and a negative acknowledge, respectively, and a negative acknowledge and a positive acknowledge, respectively.

18. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/transmitter according to claim 17,  
wherein the first acknowledgement state is a positive acknowledge and the second acknowledgement state is a negative acknowledge.
19. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/transmitter according to claim 18,  
wherein the transceiver/transmitter monitors the a communications medium during a time slot during which the transceiver/transmitter is not transmitting.
20. (Currently Amended) A transceiver/transmitter according to claim 19,  
wherein upon receiving a negative acknowledge, the transceiver/transmitter retransmits the data to the at least one of the transceiver/receivers transceiver/receiver.
21. (Currently Amended) In a wireless network including a transceiver/transmitter and at least two transceivers/receivers transceiver/receivers, a method of disseminating data to be shared by with the at least two transceiver/receivers, the method including comprising:  
Transmitting transmitting from the transceiver/transmitter, the data to the at least two transceiver/receivers;

Upon upon unsuccessfully receiving the data at by at least one of the at least two transceiver/receivers, transmitting negative acknowledge data to indicate unsuccessful receipt of the data;

Retransmitting retransmitting the data from the transceiver/transmitter; and

Replacing replacing the data received by the plurality of each of the at least two transceiver/receivers with the retransmitted data in each of the at least two transceiver/receivers.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21,  
wherein the negative acknowledge data is also received by the transceiver/transmitter and least one transceiver/receiver other than a transceiver/receiver which transmitted the negative acknowledge data.
23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21 22,  
wherein upon receiving the negative acknowledge, the other transceiver/receivers that successfully received the data from the transceiver/transmitter discard the data received from the transceiver/transmitter before receiving the retransmitted data.
24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21,  
wherein the step of transmitting the data is done transmitted in a first time slot, the step of transmitting the negative acknowledge is done transmitted in a second time slot, and the step of retransmitting the data is done retransmitted in a third time slot.
25. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23,

wherein upon each successful receipt of data by one of the transceiver/receivers, the respective transceiver/receiver transmits a positive acknowledge.

26. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 25,  
wherein ~~the step of transmitting~~ the positive acknowledge is ~~done~~ transmitted in an additional time slot between the first time slot and the second time slot.

27-30. (Cancelled)